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LETTER DATED 26 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I am enclosing herewith the statement from the meeting of Slobodan Milosevic, President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, with the most responsible leaders of the country following the discovery of the massacre of 15 kidnapped Serbs in the United States zone of responsibility in Kosovo and Metohija, the autonomous province of the Yugoslav constituent Republic of Serbia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIC
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Statement dated 26 August 1999

At a meeting of President Milosevic with the most responsible leaders of the country, it was concluded that full responsibility for the massacre of 15 kidnapped Serbs in the United States zone of responsibility in Kosovo and Metohija lies with the United States Administration. The fact that this atrocity was discovered the day after the mass murder of Serbs in Staro Gradsko, and that the United States contingent with KFOR has for more than a month hidden this outrage from international public opinion, is most eloquent proof of protection of the criminals, which is by any international law qualified as accessory to murder.

Killing of civilians in Serbia was the NATO strategy during two and a half months of air strikes. This crime is being perpetuated under United Nations auspices.

The incumbent United States Administration can no longer explain even to its own, let alone to the world public, stories about its good intentions, especially fairy tales about a democracy built on its alliance with murderers, drug and arms dealers and KLA terrorists. Their mercenaries in Serbia cannot explain it, either.

All past actions of the United States Government in Kosovo and Metohija, and in particular the setting up and organization of the terrorist KLA, organization of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and arms indicate that this effort is a deliberate and planned criminalization of not only the entire region but also of Europe. The United States Administration is developing an industry of death in Kosovo and Metohija, which should be made known both to the American and the world public. Both publics should know that the largest drug trade intended for Western Europe, the United States and Canada is being run via Kosovo and Metohija. Only assassins and plunderers like those from the KLA and their freak organization could have taken on this role.

The leadership of Yugoslavia believes that after all that has happened, no one in the West will be able to make excuses in future that they did not know what was going on. Yugoslavia demands that the United Nations Security Council decide to place the activities in Kosovo and Metohija, which are under United Nations auspices, truly under its auspices and control and bear responsibility, consistent with its role under the Charter of the United Nations. If not, the Security Council will impress upon the world public that the United States Government has abused the United Nations name to protect KLA terrorists, to cover up mass human rights violations and make possible the ethnic cleansing of Kosovo and Metohija, thus creating a state which is both illegal and untenable.

If the drug mafia and the clique of politicians corrupted by it gain the upper hand over the United Nations and the free and democratic States, the world will have no future.

The Federal Republic or Yugoslavia will fight persistently and permanently against violence and diktats, in favour of freedom, peace and equality of nations and people.